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Daily Eastern News: April 30, 2015

Eastern Illinois University

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SUPPORTING NEPAL

Students coordinate a vigil Wednesday in support of those affected by the earthquake in Nepal Saturday.

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KICKIN' BUTLER

Senior midfielder Will Butler proves his worth on and off the field.

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Thursday, April 30, 2015

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 99 | NO. 145

Lavender graduation to support those in LGBTQA

By **Thaija Evans**
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

To unofficially accompany the upcoming Eastern graduation ceremony, EIU Pride will also host Lavender Graduation to support members of the LGBTQIA community.

Lavender graduation is a ceremony honoring lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and ally students for their accomplishments and involvement at Eastern. Graduates from both the fall and spring semesters are welcome to register and attend.

Lavender Graduation has taken place on campus for the past five years.

Cameron Carrara, the EIU Pride graduate adviser, said Lavender Graduation has been around for two decades.

"The tradition of Lavender graduation began at the University of Michigan in 1995 with just three graduates," Carrara said. "By 2001, there were over 45 institutions who were holding Lavender Graduation ceremonies. The tradition continues to expand to additional colleges and universities across the country."

Both the former vice president of business affairs and vice president for student affairs, Bill Weber and Dan Nadler, respectively, will be at the ceremony.

Weber will address the graduates and attendees with an opening speech regarding a topic of his choice. Nadler will present each student with a certificate and rainbow cord that can be worn with their caps at Eastern's commencement ceremony, said Carrara.

"The color lavender plays a historic role in LGBTQ history and in the community," Carrara said. "It's a combination of the colors pink and black, which were once used to identify and discriminate against gays and lesbians. The LGBTQ community has reclaimed lavender as symbol of pride and community."

As a gift from the organization every graduate will receive a framed panoramic photo of Eastern's castle lit up by rainbow colored lights. Weber created the photos.

The ceremony will take place on May 8 in the Atrium of the Tarble Arts Center.

Registration for this year's graduation ceremony is still open for students who would like to participate. Those who would like to register can do so by going to the Eastern LGBTQA Resource Center website. If participants wish to receive a personalized certificate during the ceremony, they must register by 5 p.m. Monday.

"Lavender Graduation builds on the university-wide commencement events as an officially supported ceremony celebrating and recognizing the contributions and achievements of our LGBTQ and ally seniors to the EIU community," Carrara said.

The ceremony is not meant to replace EIU's graduation ceremony, but coincide with it, Carrara said.

Thaija Evans can be reached at 581-2812 or tvevans@eiu.edu.

Community colleges to possibly offer nursing bachelor's degree

By **Luis Martinez**
Administration Editor | @DEN_News

The Illinois Council of Community College heard and looked over a proposal in March that would allow all community colleges to offer a bachelor's degree for nursing.

If the proposal were passed, Lake Land Community College would have to go through its own procedure to implement a nursing degree program.

Josh Bullock, the president of Lake Land College, attended the council meeting on March 14 in Naperville. He said should the state approve

the proposal, the program would be most beneficial to community colleges where they have partnerships with other universities, such as the partnership between Eastern and Lake Land.

Renee Kidd-Marshall, the director of the nursing program at Eastern, could not be reached for comment.

Emily Murray, a freshman pre-nursing major at Eastern, said if there were a bachelor's degree offered at Lake Land, it would affect Eastern's current program.

"I think that nursing students would choose Lake Land over EIU because Eastern already has a bad reputation with their nursing program,

and their limited options for nursing pre-requisites and professors," Murray said. "Lake Land is also a community college that is easier to transfer out of for nursing school and has cheaper tuition than Eastern does."

Bullock said the proposal does not mean Lake Land will be competing with other universities for students seeking a nursing degree, including Eastern.

"Anytime we make a new program here at Lake Land, we want to extend it to Eastern," Bullock said. "Our focus here is our partnership with Eastern."

NURSING, page 5



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

President Bill Perry and his wife, Linda, talk with Eastern's current Student Body President Reginald Thedford and next incoming Student Body President, Shirmeen Ahmad, during Picnic with Prez Wednesday on the South Quad. This is Perry's last Picnic with the Prez.

Prowlin' with Perry now pastime

By **Jehad Abbed**
Assistant Sports Editor | @Jehada

President Bill Perry clutched a farewell card he received from a student as he stood at his last "Prowlin' with the Prez" event of his career Wednesday in the South Quad.

Students lined up by the dozens to sign a goodbye poster and have their pictures taken with Perry.

Shirmeen Ahmad, newly elected student-body president for next school year, said she was happy with the student turnout, but was struggling emotionally with this being the last event for Perry.

"I'm trying not to crumble inside," Ahmad said. "This is it. This is the last one. This is what I've been waiting for, to have the students show him how much we love him before he leaves."

Ahmad said she was sad Perry was leav-

"I'm sad this is the last one. There's a lot of 'last times' in your last year. To have these kinds of organized events is a great way to meet students."

- Bill Perry, president

ing because she connected with him so well through coordinating on the Prowlin' events

Perry said he knows he still has a lot of time to see students at the commencement ceremonies next weekend and when he returns for homecoming, but he said it was

still sad he was done with these events.

"I'm sad this is the last one," he said. "There's a lot of 'last times' in your last year. To have these kinds of organized events is a great way to meet students," Perry said.

Perry is known for his interaction with students and the approachable way he carries himself.

He stood between the free Jimmy Johns platters and foldable tables in the grass, speaking to everyone standing in line and taking pictures with anybody who wanted.


Perry said it is the way he has always been. He said Eastern called his former school of Texas A&M to ask about him when he was just a candidate to be president.

"They asked this person 'What can you tell me about Bill Perry?'" he said. "and he answered 'He'll be everywhere'."

PERRY, page 5


Local weather

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Low: 37°

FRIDAY



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High: 69°
Low: 48°

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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Artist's alley



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Alan Pocaro, an art professor, observes art done by Drawing II, Painting I and Painting II students as part of the End of the Semester Art Show, which took place Wednesday in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Danielle Rogner, a freshman art major, spent two weeks inside the atrium bathroom in the Doudna Fine Arts Center painting this piece for her painting class. The piece was displayed during the End of the Year Art Show Wednesday in Doudna.

18th Street businesses to host vendors

By Cassie Buchman
City Editor|@DEN_News

The street will be filled with people exploring businesses and checking out a variety of craft and food vendors at the 18th Street block party 10 a.m. Saturday.

The fair is between Madison Avenue and continues south of Lincoln Avenue.

Steve Runyon, the owner of Home Again Consignment Shop, is one of the people who helped organize the party.

Block party organizers and business owners have been working on setting up the whole party for two months.

"We've been working closely with all the other businesses," Runyon said. "There's a whole group of businesses who organize it."

Runyon said it started five years ago and has grown every year since.

He said the party has always had a good turnout, but the first one was smaller.

Along with the craft and food vendors, other activities will be available as

well such as a car show and free carriage ride.

"We pay in a pot to take care of ads and the free carriage rides," Runyon said.

Local people who participate in car shows own the cars.

"The car owners rebuild their cars for showing at these car shows," Runyon said.

One of the activities, called "Touch a Truck" in which children will be able touch a truck and have their picture taken with it as well, will raise money for the local Headstart program.

The Headstart program is for young children and prepares them for eventually enrolling in school.

Runyon's business, the Home Again Consignment Shop, is one of 21 businesses participating in and organizing the block party.

Others include Twice is Nice, which sells used clothing and furniture, 18th Street Garden Stop, which wells flowers and plants and Bike and Hike, which provides bike services.

Some businesses that are new to the party are Eclipse Hair Salon, Eastern Illinois Auto Supply, Birch's Heating and A/C, Dave's Decorating Center, and People's Bank and Trust.

These establishments are not necessarily new to the 18th Street area, but they are new to getting involved with the block party.

Each business volunteers to be in the block party and are also invited by other businesses if they have not participated before.

Runyon said each business is responsible for any food or craft vendors they will be hosting at their establishment.

About 12 food vendors will be at the party, who will have French friends, corn dogs, rib eye sandwiches and pizza among other things.

"The craft vendors will have anything from jewelry to repurposed furniture," Runyon said. "There will also be local representatives from direct sales companies."

He said live music will be provided by Ron and Jan Easter, who play all

kinds of music.

"At Home Again Consignment, we will have food vendors, vendors for fresh produce, three craft vendors, and live music," Runyon said.

18th Street Garden shop will also have live music as well as Twice is Nice who will have DJ and karaoke.

Runyon said the block party of people from Charleston into the local businesses as well as surrounding areas such as Mattoon, Ashmore, Oakland, Tuscola and Sullivan.

"It absolutely brings us new customers," Runyon said. "Lots of people discover 18th Street businesses for the first time. The turnout has been wonderful every year."

He said 18th Street businesses are happy to be able to participate in the block party.

"We appreciate the support of the community for an event like this," Runyon said.

Cassie Buchman can be reached at 581-2812 or cjbuchman@eiu.edu.

Tarble to remain open over summer break

By Derrin Coad
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Despite the majority of Eastern's students clearing out over the summer, the Tarble Arts Center will continue to host several programs in the coming months.

The 33rd annual Children's Art Exhibition will be on display from May 2 until May 24, with the Children's Art Exhibition Awards Reception being held on May 17.

Glenn Hild, the interim dean of the college of arts and humanities department, said the children's art reception is a very positive event for all those involved.

"It's a tremendous opportunity for lo-

cal students and a great outreach to the community," said Hild.

The Children's Art Exhibition will feature art from approximately 200 students from nearly 45 area schools, Hild said. The art is chosen by art teachers from the different area schools and then sent to Tarble to be displayed.

Tarble will also be putting on classes for young children from June 8 through June 24. The instructor for these classes, Eastern graduate Josh Doniek, is excited to be teaching the classes for children.

"(Tarble Arts Center) is a great tool in helping inspire young artists to be their best and gives them opportunities to learn more about art and themselves as

creators," Doniek said.

The three classes vary in price from \$24 to \$43, depending on the age of the student. The three classes are for children ages 4 to 6, 7 to 9, and 10 to 14.

William Weber, former vice president of business affairs, will host "Studio Glass" from May 16 until June 28. It will showcase selections from Weber's own collection of glass-related artwork from a variety of artists.

Sally Bock, the office administrator for the Tarble, described Weber as a collector and said it took careful consideration to pick the right pieces for the exhibition.

"This isn't something that we just

throw together," Bock said. "We start literally a year out to plan this."

Tarble will also be hosting "Above and Beyond," an exhibit that will feature 3D artwork from seven emeritus Eastern professors, from June 6 until Aug. 2. On June 15, the Tarble will welcome Rehma Barber as its new director.

Tarble's hours will also change over the summer. They will be open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday the center will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Derrin Coad can be reached at 581-2812 or dkcoad@eiu.edu.

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Money raised for Nepal



MACKENZIE FREUND | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Samyukta Ghimire, a graduate student, stands before the crowd and tells them the events during the Nepal Vigil. During the Vigil, the attendees had a moment of silence, listened to a song for the deceased and the survivors, and took a walk around campus with candles lit in remembrance.



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
International students from Nepal raise money to help support victims affected by the earthquake Wednesday in the Library Quad. "My family is okay but the neighborhood is bad," Samyukta Ghimire, a grad student in the economics department said. "It may be a couple of years until I can return home." The Earthquake took place on Saturday in Nepal.

CAA to vote on psychology requirements, revisions

By Samuel Nusbaum
Copy Editor | @DEN_News

The Council on Academic Affairs will vote on an executive action brought forward by the psychology department, a course revision from the communications studies department and revising and adding other courses 2 p.m. Thursday in the Conference Room of Booth Library.

This week's meeting will be the last one of the semester to wrap up the CAA's agenda for the academic year.

Jeffrey Stowell, the assistant chair of the psychology department, said the psychology department has demanded an executive action to change the language regarding the requirements of elective hours.

"We requested the change in language because a few students had incorrectly believed that taking one course would count in two different places for the neuroscience minor," he said. "We are changing the language (not the requirements) to prevent future misunderstanding."

The previous explanation said the neuroscience minor required nine hours of electives from a list of disciplines, and no more than two classes from one discipline.

The department wishes to add the

word "additional" to the statement.

The new statement will read "nine additional hours from the following group of electives."

Jim Novak, the interim associate dean of the College of Sciences, explained why the call of executive action was necessary.

"All curricular changes require either a formal proposal or, for minor changes, a request for an executive action," Novak said.

Novak said all curriculum changes originate at the faculty level, and the dean's office then passes the request onto the council where they make sure that the requests go through the proper proceedings for "discussion and vetting."

Elizabeth Gill, an associate professor of communication studies, explained why the learning objectives needed to change and why the class changed its classification from a writing intensive class to writing active.

The course in question is CMN 3660: Communication and Conflict Management.

"The course objectives for CMN 3660 have not been updated since 2002," Gill said. "The course and its objectives needed to be updated to reflect current best practices in teaching conflict management, and the objectives were also revised

to reflect the university's learning goals."

As far as communication and conflict management changing from a writing intensive course to a writing active one, Gill said a student's writing in a writing intensive class would account for up to 35 percent of a student's final grade, but because the objectives changed, the writing grades will not factor as much into the final grade.

The course will focus on conflict management skills, case studies and presentations among other things.

"A writing-active course includes frequent, brief writing assignments and activities," Gill said.

CAA will also be adding new classes in anthropology, biology and geology while revising classes in English and sociology among others.

The Gateway Program will be revising its requirements to allow for possible letters of recommendation and proof of academic ability.

The CAA will meet at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Conference Room of Booth Library.

Sam Nusbaum can be reached at 581-2812 or scnusbaum@eiu.edu.

Sheriff's department fundraises for K-9

By Kristen Lewis
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

A fundraiser for a new service K-9 dog that will be coming to the sheriff's department will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on May 30.

Sheriff James Rankin of the Coles County Sheriff's Office said the dog would be a new addition to the sheriff's department family.

He said having multiple dogs is helpful for the force.

The department is hosting a "Posse Ride" to raise funds to get a German shepherd. All motorcycles and Jeeps are welcome to participate in the ride, which will take place in Charleston and other surrounding areas. Food and music will be at the event as well, which also welcomes children.

Rankin said posse rides also happened a few years ago, and as new sheriff he wanted to bring them back again.

Donations and grants have already been received to get the new dog. Businesses like Mars Pet Care in Mattoon have already contributed to the cause.

Funds from the fundraiser will be used to purchase a bulletproof vest for the dog and a new vehicle for the dog to ride in with its caregiver.

Officer Shane Dusan is the new caretaker of the K-9 coming to the force.

Rankin said once all of the money is received from the fundraiser, Dusan will go pick out a dog that suits him the best.

The dog stays with the caretaker at all times, and Dusan will train the dog to work on the force.

Officer Steve Spurgeon takes care of the older K-9 dog Bo, a golden retriever who is trained to find drugs and explosives. Known as a sniff dog, Bo will still be active on the force even after the new dog comes to the department.

A meet and greet will start off the day at 8 a.m. through 9:55 a.m. at the Owen Motor Sports Dealership in Charleston where the department will serve doughnuts and coffee.

At 10 a.m. everyone will be directed to leave for the first stop at the American Legion Post 88 leave for Oakland Veterans of Foreign Wars in Mattoon.

The Oakland VFW leaves for Charleston VFW at 12:15 p.m. The Charleston VFW will have a lunch where a silent auction will be held and donations will be taken. There is around \$1,000 worth of raffles for the event.

It costs \$10 to participate in the ride and tee shirts can be purchased at the event for \$10 as well.

Kristen Lewis can be reached at 581-2812 or kelewis@eiu.edu.

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Katie Smith

Help Nepal however possible

The aftermath of a magnitude 7.8 earthquake that destroyed the homes of Nepalese natives Saturday, sent its own wave of panic throughout communities worldwide.

The worst earthquake Nepal has seen in 80 years resulted in the worst news some have ever received -- that their families and loved ones may be in danger and their communities in irreparable disarray.

For some, including one Eastern international student who spoke with The Daily Eastern News Tuesday, the earthquake's devastation is magnified by an inability to contact the loved ones who remain in Nepal, as well as the frustration of thousands of miles that separate him from his family.

I encourage everyone who is able to donate to any of the numbers of Nepal relief foundations. "TIME Magazine" released a list of 6 trustworthy foundations that are accepting money for Nepal relief. They include: Save the Children, Red Cross, Global Giving, Friends Service Council Nepal, Oxfam and Goonj. Additionally, the Asian American Student Association is working toward launching a website that will allow individuals to donate online.

When tragedy strikes there is a great calling for every kind of person to come together and contribute what they are able. If you are religious -- pray; if you financially capable -- donate; if you know someone who has been affected by this disaster -- serve as a support system.

Incredible things have been known to happen when masses bind together with good intentions.

There are no words to describe the devastation that has affected strangers and loved ones alike, and I cannot pretend to know how any affected individuals must be feeling.

I encourage those within our own community who have been affected by the Earthquake to seek any counseling they feel necessary, to let their neighbors, classmates and coworkers know how they can help, and to find comfort in the fact that there are support systems worldwide they and their families can rely on.

We know about the damage, and we have a responsibility as human beings to help. This is not a cry to feel sorry for the people of Nepal and their family members. Rather, it is a call rooted in the certainty that if devastation were to tear through our own lives tomorrow, we would appreciate the same compassion.

Katie Smith is a senior journalism major and she can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com.

Today's quote:



The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others.

-Albert Schweitzer

So long, farewell



JEHAD ABBED | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Making musical events thrive on campus

The University Board put on its 2015 Spring Concert Saturday, with rapper Mac Miller as the performer. As of April 22, the Thursday before the concert, only 1,200 tickets were sold.

At the event, approximately half of each seating section was filled. Although the tickets were not sold out, the bulk of the blame should not be placed onto the board, but rather the student body.

The UB takes multiple steps into selecting an artist who will fit into a specified budget and appeal to students.

At the end of the fall semester, students are sent questionnaires with favorite music genres. The questionnaire then expands on each genre and asks students to select musicians they would be most likely to see in concert.

Cece Brinker, the director of student life, said that most of the selection of artists are those who are already fit within the price range of the board's budget.

Mac Miller ranked No. 9 out of 35 artists in the se-

lection pool, according to the UB spring 2015 concert survey report.

Not only did the board secure a top-selecting artist, but it also priced tickets in accordance to the survey responses.

A majority, 77.6 percent, said they would purchase a ticket in the \$20 to \$50 price range. The UB chose the lower range of the increment for tickets, asking \$21 for student tickets.

Participants in the survey responded positively to attending an Eastern concert. Approximately 66 percent of surveyors said they would either be extremely likely or likely to attend a major concert at Eastern.

The survey reached out to approximately 4,000 students randomly, and only 765 students completed it.

The lack of participation can directly correlate to the lack of ticket sales from the student body.

Students are often given the opportunity to have a voice, and yet they do not participate, and then later are

not interested in going to campus events.

With low enrollment and a decreasing budget, securing an artist within the student's top-ten picks should have resulted in increased student attendance.

The survey shows that the UB is welcoming to student's opinions, and then strives to meet those suggestions. Students should support entertainment events on their campus. Not only is it the most convenient in terms of location, but the university events are aimed for the interest and budget of its students.

The board should continue to listen to students' suggestions, and try to recruit outside communities to attend the events.

Their biggest and most important audiences are the students though, and the students should respond to their requests being met.

The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of *The Daily Eastern News*.

What I might have left behind at Carman Hall

I can vividly remember standing between the North and South towers of Carman Hall at around 4 p.m. my freshman year.

The sun beamed a rectangular sliver of light that stretched across the yard like a yawn and past the smokers' table where all of the potheads congregated in their little cloud of confusion.

I wanted to see how far the light sprawled out, but I was hesitant to crane my neck any further. I remember dreading being hooted and hollered at or being stopped by someone for some increasingly awkward small talk. I hardly knew anyone there, so I walked faster.

I glanced back out towards the light as soon as I stepped inside. I fumbled distractedly for my keys to get the mail. The tips of my toes ached as I peered in through the glass and over the shrubs to get a glimpse.

The light extended to the very tip of the sidewalk where the roof of the cafeteria caused the light to fade as the darkness crawled upon it with jagged shadows from the pine trees.

I frowned, suddenly filled with an eagerness to walk



Margorie Clemente

back out and stand in between the buildings and smile up at the giant sliver of light that kissed all of the cool spots on my body.

It felt amazing—this kind of freedom—to come and go as I pleased. I had no curfew or any nagging voices telling me to get back into the house.

At some point, I figured I looked like a weirdo just standing there, swaying back and forth in between the buildings. Bathing in the sun was a mere, one-second thought before I turned away again to the mailbox. I tossed my hand inside and probed the cold slot with my fingers.

To my dismay, there lay absolutely nothing. Actually, I remember sulking back up to my room feeling a little heavier in the feet.

With a sigh, I rounded on my heels the opposite way, disappointed and marched for the elevator. I always felt so special whenever there was mail for me from friends or a surprise package from my mother—anything with my name stamped on it, really.

Those were the things that concerned me the most freshman year: Is my beta fish still alive? Do I have enough money in my account to get that one album from iTunes? Where is the next party?

Sometimes I still don't feel like a 22-year-old ready to graduate. I'll bet even when I'm sitting in Lantz, sweating profusely in my cap n' gown and daydreaming while names are listed, I'll still be thinking about the doe-eyed 18-year-old I left behind on the second floor of Carman Hall.

Margorie Clemente is a senior English major and can be reached at 581-2812 or at denopinions@gmail.com.

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Lawn Party to celebrate end to school year

By Rose Sacco
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Students and community members alike are expected to celebrate in the front lawn of Old Main for the second Old Main Lawn Party at 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday on the lawn in front of Old Main.

The Lawn Party is mainly for an end of the school year celebration. Music, food, door prizes and games provided by Eastern's Office of Student Community Service will be available for the Coles County community and students and staff.

The Freezels, a local husband and wife duo from the band Jac Freeze, will

play their acoustic arrangement renditions of old country favorites and rock.

The band is currently touring around the Midwest, and is based in central Illinois, according to the band's website.

The band has covered songs from Alanah Myles, Adele, The Band Perry, Little Big Town, Sugarland, Carrie Underwood and Martina McBride; they are expected to cover new artists at the Lawn Party.

Robert Martin, vice president for university advancement, said the Lawn Party is a celebration of the partnership between the university and the community.

"This is an opportunity for all of us to celebrate together," he said. "It is also a

time for all to say thank you to President Bill and Linda Perry for their great service to EIU and the community. The Mayor, President Perry, Coach Dameron and myself will be active participants."

He said there is more emphasis on family participation.

"It signifies another great year of educating thousands of students and letting them know that EIU and Charleston is honored to be their home away from home," Martin said. "Plus, it is our first opportunity to hear how awesome our Panther football team is going to play this fall."

He said the event will be co-hosted by

Eastern and the Charleston Chamber of Commerce. Martin said the Chamber of Commerce was helpful in promoting the event around the Coles County community.

Parking for the lawn party is available in the X lot to the east of Old Main. The University Police Department will not ticket after 4:30 p.m. in the X lot. In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved into Old Main. As of press time, the weather is expected to be clear.

Rose Sacco can be reached at 581-2812 or rcsacco@eiu.edu.

» NURSING CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

Murray said she believes if there was another nursing degree program other than the one available at Eastern, it would cause some competition between both institutions for prospective nursing students.

"It would make the program less expensive and also more beneficial for nursing students at Eastern," Murray said.

Bullock also said even if the proposal gets approval, it would take some time before the program gets started.

"Even if the proposal gets state approval, each local college would still have to develop it and get it approved by their boards of trustees," Bullock said.

Bullock said the proposal would have to go through different steps before it can be put into motion.

In Lake Land's case, the proposal would have to go through the Board of Trustees, the Illinois Council of Community College, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Some of the requirements for Eastern's current nursing program include two letters of reference, a registered nursing license from the student's current resident state, a certified background check, and professional liability insurance.

Illinois state laws prohibit community colleges from offering bachelor's degree to their students. However, back in 2009, Harper College managed to successfully pass a bachelor's degree proposal in the Illinois House of Representatives, though it never made it to the Illinois Senate because of opposition from both public and private institutions and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The goal of the proposal is to help meet the need for more health care workers, and increase the number by at least 22 percent.

Last week, for the first time, both Eastern's and Lake Land's boards of trustees came to together to discuss their current partnerships and how the two institution can go about carrying on the partnership in the future.

Luis Martinez can be reached at 581-2812 or lpmartinez@eiu.edu.



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Students leave messages on a sign made for President Bill Perry's retirement during Picnic with the Prez Wednesday in the South Quad. The sign read "It's a great day to be a Panther!", a quote from Perry himself, the sign continued, "Thank you for all you've done for us! Love, Students of EIU". Perry will retire at the end of the semester.

» PERRY CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

Perry said he always loved being out and about meeting with people. Universities are all about people, he said.

Ahmad said she felt like they organized well enough to reach more students than she has in the past. She said she was excited to see all the tables filled with students eating and playing bags.

"People were super excited to walk in," Ahmad said. "People are everywhere and to me that is successful as I wanted it to be."

Perry said he would be back from time to time throughout the year. He said he plans to make sure he visits campus anytime he is close to the area.

"This is a wonderful university with wonderful students, faculty and staff," Perry said. "I'm privileged to have been able to serve as president."

The different themed events allow him to interact with different groups of students, he said.

Perry said there are plenty of friends and students who he has met over the years that will keep him coming back to visit.

"Those are the richest memories that I'll have," he said. "All these relationships and the occasional card from a student. It really means a lot to me."

Jehad Abbed can be reached at 581-2812 or Jaabbed@eiu.edu.

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THE Daily Eastern News

Breaking barriers



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Anna Richardson, a senior communication studies major, discusses what she believes feminism is and how society views it during the “Breaking the Barriers: Gender and Sexuality Challenges on Our Culture” event Wednesday in the auditorium of Coleman Hall.

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements

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Johnson makes most of opportunities

By Sean Hastings
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

Freshman softball player Tori Johnson does not usually start for the Panthers but makes the most of every opportunity she gets to play in the game. Johnson sure did make the most of her opportunity to start last weekend against Southeast Missouri as she led the team offensively in the three games. She went 4-for-9 in the three games and also scored a run for the Panthers. Johnson said she was happy with how she played in the games against Southeast Missouri

“It felt good, because I could contribute to my team and let them know that I am able to help them out in any way that I can,” Johnson said.

She said she went into the game just making sure that she was prepared to do whatever she needed to do in order to help the Panthers get a win.

Johnson is a big asset for the team, because she can play at almost every position on the field.

Coming into Eastern, Johnson’s main position was shortstop, but she has seen time in the outfield, on the mound, at second base and third base in her first year as a Panther.

“I’ll just play wherever they put me,” Johnson said.

She has seen a majority of her time in the outfield this year, which was new for her, because she was always mainly an infielder.

“I feel like I’ve improved a lot in the outfield,” Johnson said. “Coming here I was mainly an infielder, so I learned a lot with outfield work.”

Johnson is one of few players on the team that can play in any spot on the field and can be relied on to get the job done there.

She also said she feels comfortable no matter where she plays.

Eastern coach Angie Nicholson loves how Johnson can be utilized in so many ways and knows how important that is for the team.



JEHAD ABBED | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman utility player Tori Johnson is batting .261 in her first season with the Panthers. She is 3-for-3 on stolen-base attempts.

“It’s very important,” Nicholson said. “I would love everybody to do that, ideally.”

Johnson also has seen a lot of pinch-hit and pinch-run opportunities this year. She is 3-for-3 in stolen bases on the year.

When Johnson goes to steal a base, she said she makes sure to get a good leadoff and take off as soon as the pitcher releases the ball.

Her speed is another important part of her game that she brings to the team.

Nicholson said she is the type of coach who loves speed and likes to make things happen on the bases. Also, to have players in the lineup that can do that for them is big.

Even though Johnson comes off the bench to pinch-run, her legs are already to run.

“In between innings, we’re supposed to run down to the fence and back so my legs are usually always warm, and I’m ready to go,” Johnson said.

Johnson has appeared in 20 games this year and has a batting average of .261. She also has two runs batted in and has scored five runs for the Panthers.

Just as a few other hitters have, Johnson has had to change up her swing a little bit to hit how the coaches want her to hit.

Johnson said that the new hitting style has worked out for her.

Since she is relied on to pinch run and pinch-hit for the Pan-

thers, paying attention to the pitcher and knowing what she is doing on the mound is very important for her.

“In the beginning of every game I make sure I get a good spot to where I can see the pitcher,” Johnson said. “I make sure I ask the people who have batted before me how they do and go from there to get my mind right to hit.”

Nicholson believes Johnson has a lot of potential and room to improve.

“Tori has a lot of potential, and I’m hoping she’s seeing and realizing that she has an opportunity in front of her to go out and grab it,” Nicholson said.

Johnson has three years left at

Eastern and looks to just keep improving as she has throughout the 2015 season.

“I just want to keep improving and keep doing my job whether it be cheering on the team or helping out in any way I can,” Johnson said.

Johnson has one more weekend of games against Sothern Illinois-Edwardsville this weekend for the regular season. Then her and the rest of the Panthers will head to the Ohio Valley Conference tournament Wednesday, May 6 and look to make some noise there.

Sean Hastings can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.

Panthers improve, move up in OVC standings

By Bob Reynolds
Sports Editor | @BobReynoldsDEN

Despite the rough start to the season, the Eastern baseball teams’ OVC tournament hopes are still high.

The Panthers are 6-15 in the conference and only four games behind sixth place Belmont.

Eastern has three remaining conference series against Morehead State, Tennessee-Martin and Southern Illinois Edwardsville.

After starting 0-11 in the OVC play, the Panthers have won two-straight OVC series against Belmont and Eastern Kentucky.

“We have just been playing solid all-around baseball,” Eastern senior second baseman Dane Sauer said. “It’s been fun to be a part of.”

Since the Panthers ended their 23 game losing streak to start the season, they have won 10 of their last 16 games, including mixing in a four-game win streak two weeks ago.

Currently, Eastern has won its last 3-of-4 games, including scoring 35 runs in the three wins.

The pitching staff has only allowed 14 runs in the three wins.

Eastern is coming off a 13-4 win over St. Louis University, who it lost to earlier in the season.

Eastern senior pitcher Andrew Grahn picked up his second win of the season after pitching six innings and allowing one run on four hits.

The Panthers’ bats stayed alive in the win Tuesday. Eastern scored 13 runs on 17 hits.

Eastern’s top of the order of freshman Joe Duncan, Sauer and senior Caleb Howell went 9-for-14 with four runs batted in and four runs scored.

The Panthers head to Morehead State for a three-game weekend series starting Friday. Sauer said winning game one against the three seed in the conference would be a big momentum boost for the rest of the series.

“It’s definitely going to be important especially with them being at the top of the conference,” he said. “A win on Friday would be a huge momentum shift.”

Southeast Missouri has a four-



MACKENZIE FREUND | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior first baseman Adam Casson catches the ball after it was fielded from short stop. The runner was out at first base.

game lead on second place Southern Illinois Edwardsville.

The Redhawks are 19-5 in the conference and have won their last 9-of-10 games, which includes two three-game series sweeps against conference rival Murray State and Jacksonville State over the past couple of weeks.

Southeast Missouri has won every three-game series played this

season against an OVC series team.

Morehead State, Austin Peay, Tennessee State and Belmont round out the next four teams that are currently locked into a postseason tournament berth.

With the Panthers’ tournament bid not out of sight, Sauer said it gives the team a ton of extra motivation to go to the ballpark each and every day.

“That’s the reason you’re playing,” he said. “Everyone’s goal should be to make the tournament. It’s all about getting hot at the right time.”

For the sixth year in a row, the OVC Baseball Championship will be at The Ballpark in Jackson in Jackson, Tenn.

The tournament will start May 20 and run to May 24. It is a double-elimination tournament, so teams would be able to lose one game and have a chance to win the title.

Last season, the Panthers defeated Jacksonville State 2-1 in the first round of the tournament.

Eastern would drop the next two games to Southeast Missouri in the second round of the tournament, and then the Panthers fell to Jacksonville State 1-3 to end their 2014 season.

Jacksonville State ended up winning the conference tournament after a 4-2 win over Tennessee Tech.

Bob Reynolds can be reached at 581-2812 or rjreynolds@eiu.edu.

Butler achieves success on, off soccer field

By Bob Reynolds

Sports Editor | @BobReynoldsDEN

Eastern men's soccer senior Will Butler was awarded the Athletic Director Award at the Student-Athlete honors dinner.

Cindy Miller, the Director of Academic Services for student-athletes, said the Athletic Director Award was created to present to the student-athlete who exemplifies what being a student-athlete means—academics, athletics, community service and leadership.

"I am very proud when I see that they can handle the unique time demands and multiple responsibilities of being a Division I student-athlete," Miller said. "Many of our student-athletes manage both academics and sport very successfully."

Butler said winning the award was unexpected.

"I never planned on being recognized," he said. "I don't work for the recognition of others. I just try to make myself a little bit better every day."

Four years ago, Butler and his parents started going to Haiti with teams of people. He, his family and a team of people would put on soccer camps for the local people.

"I also stay for longer periods of time working with Respire Haiti, providing coaching, trainings mentoring and doing what I can to help," Butler said.

Respire Haiti was founded 24 years ago, according to www.repsirehaiti.org. The website also said its mission is "Respire Haiti desires to encourage, educate and empower restaveks, orphans and vulnerable children."

Butler said he majored in psychology, because he wants to help people.

"During my time working in Haiti, I have seen tons of people suffering from mental illness," he said. "I decided to major in psychology to acquire the skills necessary to treat people beyond just their physical needs. There are a lot of people in Haiti providing food, shelter and supplies for

the impoverished. However, there are very few people treating individuals suffering from psychological problems."

During his time at Eastern, Butler ended his career 12th on the Eastern career assists list with 16. He scored two goals this season and had seven for his career.

Butler has started four years while at Eastern and was one of four players to start and play all 17 matches his freshman season.

He was named to the Summit League All-Newcomer Team his freshman season as well, and he scored a goal in his first collegiate game against Big Ten member Northwestern.

Over his career, Butler was able to start every game but one, which was in his sophomore season.

At the mid-point of this season, Butler was moved from midfield to defender and said it was a hard transition.

"I really hate playing defense," he said. "But, I was willing to play wherever I was needed. The teams' success is way more important than anyone's personal preference. I was just happy to be playing the game I love."

Academic-wise, Butler holds a 3.76 grade point average and was named to the Summit League All-Academic Team for three-straight years.

He credits his successes to his parents, coaches and teammates.

"They have all been there to guide and keep me on track every step of the way," he said. "I would be nowhere close to where I am today academically, athletically or personally without them. They were the people that kept me working hard from day one to the present."

Although Butler said balancing school and soccer has always been hard, he found that it has gotten easier to manage his time as he gets older.

"I was able to be successful at balancing school and soccer, because I knew if I wanted to be successful I had to give things up that others got to do," he said. "This means that at



JASON HOWELL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior Will Butler and Southern Illinois-Edwardsville's Devyn Jambga square off during a corner kick during the Panthers' 4-3 extra time loss on Nov. 4 at Lakeside Field.

times, I had to miss things like social events, watching television, going home for the weekend and getting the proper amount of sleep."

Butler said his parents have always been the biggest influences over his life.

"They have sacrificed to grant me opportunities that have vastly improved my life," he said. "They are

both extremely hard working people, and they have taught me there are never any excuses for not doing your absolute best. I would have nothing in my life without their hard work, sacrifice and guidance."

Butler plans on working in the substance abuse counseling field and plans on getting his Masters degree in clinical psychology in the next

few years.

He will graduate this May with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, and a minor in sociology. After graduation, Butler will start a job as a substance abuse counselor in Naperville.

Bob Reynolds can be reached at 581-2812 or rjreynolds@eiu.edu.

Markowski, Bennett homer in win for Panthers

By Sean Hastings

Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Panthers won a non-conference home game against Southern Illinois- Carbondale 4-0 Wednesday at Williams Field.

The win improves the Panthers regular season record to 18-24.

The Panthers' offense was led by juniors April Markowski and Kylie Bennett, who both hit two-run home runs to give Eastern its four runs on the day.

Sophomore Haylee Beck was on base for Markowski's home run, and senior Hannah Cole was on for Bennett's.

Bennett also hit a double and finished the day 2-for-3.

Even though the two home runs were key in the Panthers victory, Eastern coach Angie Nicholson would like to see the team pound the ball and be tough outs.

"I think we can do better," Nicholson said. "We had those two great timely hits, which was great, but I'd rather see us be tougher outs. I'd rather see more hard shots."

While the homeruns help the offense, it also makes the Panthers realize that these games can come down to one pitch.

"That has been our lesson all



MACKENZIE FREUND | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior infielder Kylie Bennett hit a double during the fourth inning against Southern Illinois University Wednesday at Williams Stadium. Bennett went on to hit a home run during the sixth inning.

year," Nicholson said. "We know that one pitch can go against us or go for us."

Coming into the game, Nicholson wanted the Panthers to get extra looks to help them get ready for this

weekend's important conference games against Southern Illinois- Edwardsville.

One player that Nicholson wants to get back to usual form is freshman pitcher, Michelle Rogers.

Rogers has struggled in her past few appearances, but pitched seven strong innings and shut out the Salukis. She had given up 13 runs in her last 5 2/3 innings pitched.

In her seven innings of work

Wednesday, Rogers struck out four, walked five and allowed only four hits.

Rogers allowed the bases to be loaded in the top of the first with two outs, but that would be the only time the Salukis really threatened to score.

Nicholson was happy to see Rogers have such a solid outing.

"She did fantastic," Nicholson said. "She trusted her drop ball today. She just went with it instead of second- guessing it."

Nicholson also said her demeanor on the mound was different compared to her recent starts.

"I feel like she was throwing and having fun rather than throwing and feeling pressure," Nicholson said.

Rogers' win improved her record to 7-12 and dropped her earned run average to 4.34.

The Panthers' next test will be a series of home games against top seeded Southern Illinois Edwardsville, and Nicholson feels that they are ready but still wants to have everyone in the lineup and be tough outs to get the wins.

Sean Hastings can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.